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Bill Caton
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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August 9, 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

RECEIVED

AUG 11 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. George Duncan
Chief, Bloomfield Fire Department
Post Office Box 1839
Bloomfield, New Mexico 87413

Dear Mr. Duncan:

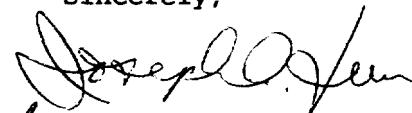
This is in reply to your letter of March 30, 1993, to Senator Bingaman regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals, plus a discussion paper released March 1, 1993.

We are sensitive to the needs of users of private land mobile radio spectrum and the impact that these proposals may have on their radio systems. We will endeavour to protect all private land mobile radio systems, including those operated by public safety entities. Your letter will be included in the record of this proceeding and will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules.

Thank you for your interest in this proceeding. We expect to issue final rules in 1994.

Sincerely,



for Edward R. Jacobs
Deputy Chief, Land Mobile and
Microwave Division

Copy to: Senator Jeff Bingaman

Enclosures

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JEFF BINGAMAN
NEW MEXICO

PRB
92-255
110 HART SENATE OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3102
(202) 224-5521
IN NEW MEXICO—1-800-443-8658
TDD (202) 224-1792

United States Senate

July 16, 1993

2978

Ms. Lauren J. Belvin
Acting Director
Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communication Comm.
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Lauren:

I have received the enclosed letter from George Duncan regarding the refarming of radio frequencies in the Public Safety radio ban.

I would appreciate your assistance in responding to my constituent's concerns. Please look into this matter and report back directly to my constituent with your findings. Please provide my office with a copy of your response.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator

JB/tlm
Enclosure

City of Bloomfield

BLOOMFIELD, NEW MEXICO 87413
P. O. BOX 1839

915 NORTH FIRST

PHONE 632-8096

March 30, 1993

Senator Jeff Bingaman
Hart Building, Room 524
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bingaman,

The Federal Communications Commission is proposing the re-farming of radio frequencies in the Public Safety radio band as well as other bands. This proposal contained in Notice of Proposed Rulemaking No. 92-235 was released on November 6, 1992.

These proposed rules would affect public safety communications adversely in several ways:

1. Radio equipment presently in service would be obsolete upon the proposed effective date of January 1, 1996.
2. Obsolescence of present radio equipment would mandate that we purchase new equipment which could impact this department by \$55,000.00 to \$65,000.00 at today's prices.
3. Restrictions on antennae height would dramatically reduce our radio coverage area and force us to acquire additional hilltop radio sites to maintain this coverage, thus additional cost would be incurred.
4. The consolidation of radio services would force fire, law enforcement and emergency medical services to compete

with Forestry-Conservation, Local Government (street maint.) and Highway Maintenance for available radio frequencies.

I realize that the re-farming of frequencies is most probably needed, especially in major metropolitan areas, however rural America will be affected operationally and fiscally and within a time frame that is not realistic. As a very minimum ten to fifteen years should be given to allow fire departments and communities at large to prepare for these changes.

I respectfully request your support in this matter and if I may be of assistance please contact me.

Your In Public Safety,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'George Duncan', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

George Duncan
Chief

Bloomfield Fire Department